



Camp Laney Reflections

by Cherie Roberts

As a new seventh grade teacher I had no idea what to expect at Camp Laney. Therefore, I imagined all sorts of scary scenarios:

******What if Dr. Marro banished me to my cabin for having crumbs on the floor?

******Was it possible that Coach Wims and Coach Cooper would have no mercy and

pulverize me in battleball in front of everyone?

******What if Mr. Russ and all my students watched me faint out of fear on the ropes course only to be left

hanging in mid-air like some freakish piñata?

******However, the worst scenario imaginable was the possibility there would be no Diet Cokes available and the entire seventh grade would watch me have a major withdrawal meltdown!

Fortunately none of the above happened, and I had the time of my life. How appreciative I am for the experience of watching young men face their fears and emerge triumphant. I met new students and learned



Surviving the kamikaze

cont. on page 3

A WALK IN THE WOODS:

Mixed Reviews

by Jimmy Anderson

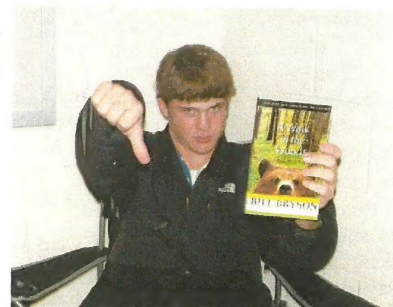
Each summer, all MBA students have a list of books, different for each grade, that they are required to read; in addition, there is one book, the **chosen** book, for the entire school to read. This year's school-wide selection was Bill Bryson's autobiographical *A*

Walk in the Woods. The selection committee reported that the book is a humorous fast read, or at least that's what I was told. I eagerly opened the book, hoping that it would be better than last year's book, *Life of Pi*, which many students agree was **not** the best book they have ever read. *A Walk in the Woods* turned out to be a middle-of-the-road book; it had its somewhat humorous parts but several dragging parts as well.

A Walk in the Woods is based on Bill Bryson's and the memorable Katz's adventure while hiking the Appalachian Trail. The

book wastes no time getting to the adventure and hiking, but as soon as the hiking begins, so do Bill Bryson's long-winded rants about miscellaneous subjects. There are

cont. on page 2



John Seht knows what he doesn't like!

A Walk in the Woods

some humorous parts in the book that are rather unforgettable, such as bizarre incidents with some odd characters encountered on the trail, most notably Mary Ellen and her ear-cleaning action. Katz's antics are often amusing, especially those involving food selection and consumption. Unfortunately, all the humor in the book cannot make up for the dull repetitiveness and the rather boring rants related by Bill Bryson. Overall, this book was okay. Personally, I thought it was a bit better than *Life of Pi*, but here's what some other students thought:

Gage Baxter: "It was okay; it had some very funny parts and some slow parts, but it was a lot better than *Life of Pi*."



*Chunsoo prefers **Pi** to **Walk**.*

Sam Givens: "*A Walk in the Woods* had funny parts, but it was very slow and boring."

Stan Rozar: "I liked it. I liked the part when they were walking in the

woods."

Warren Smith: "I didn't really like it."

Jack Keller: "It was not a good book."

Shelby DeWeese: "A good book, but way too long for my taste."

Will Norton: "Unenjoyable. Long and tedious. Not enough humor. Monotonous and repetitive."

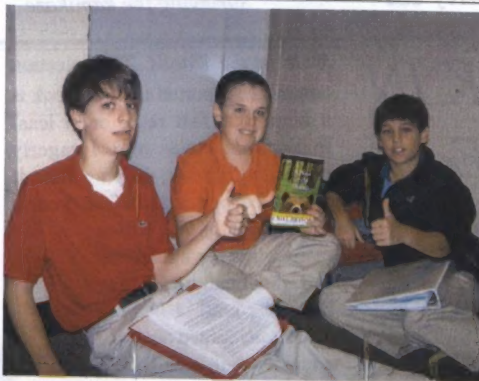
Chunsoo Park: "I liked *Life of Pi* better; it was that bad."

Chase Lovelace: "Better than *Life of Pi*, second worst book I have read."

A Seventh Grader's Perspective

by Eric Owings

A Walk in the Woods, by Bill Bryson, was MBA's all-school summer reading book. In talking with some of the students, there were many split opinions on this book. Some enjoyed it; some did not. My personal opinion on the book is that it was enjoyable. I liked the way the book was written, and I enjoyed the entertaining chapters. However, some other people felt differently, like seventh-grade MBA student, Charlie Steere, who had this to say about the book: "It might have been the most boring book I have ever read."



Ross Martin, Baker Swain, and Sam Martin: positive reactions!

However, not all comments were negative. Aaron Ardison says: "It had too much history, but it was funny."

The most popular response given was that the history presented

in the book overlapped the story and slowed it down. MBA junior, Alex Owings, had this advice for readers: "If you are interested in the environment, then go for it, but to an average reader, I would not recommend it for pleasure reading."

Most of the people that I have interviewed had the same thoughts about the book.

Camp Laney



A million thrills on the zip-line!

wonderful things about them. I was able to watch and experience some intense battleball while escaping the wrath of Coach



"Is it okay to hit Mr. Cooper?"

Wims. Most of all, I learned that being a seventh grade teacher at MBA was a whole lot of fun.

Here are some of the highlights of Camp Laney as recalled by the Class of 2012:

Alex Kohls: My favorite memory is the food because it was just like the food at home: eggs, bacon, sausage, and biscuits with gravy. Breakfast was awesome! For lunch, I

enjoyed the pizza. Then for supper, we had the best meal a kid could ask for—fried chicken, and creamed corn.

Barton Davies: My favorite activity was the kamikaze. I was able to overcome my fear of heights and rode down the V-swing.

Robert

Forcum: I enjoyed playing bombardy with the whole seventh grade. It was crazy!

Marcus Vasilevski: I liked playing battleball because I got to hit Cooper!

Henry Richardson: Battleball was fun because a lot of the teachers played and we got to hit them!

Daniel Mace: My favorite part was jumping off the pumper-pole onto the trapeze bar because it was exciting and challenging.

Eric Walsh: I liked the boat race because my team would have won. I liked designing and building the boat.

John Mark Bellet: My favorite part of Camp Laney was the high ropes course. It was very exciting, and my favorite one was the kamikaze.

Hugh Wells: I liked the high ropes course. It was fun getting to do the zip line because you are scared up in the tree but happy once you complete the obstacle.

Michael Kosson: My favorite activity was the climbing wall. It was pretty cool. I was the only one in my group to make it up the wall. It was so much fun!! I recommend climbing "double digits" to next year's seventh graders.

Warren Lipscomb: I enjoyed the chance to bond with friends and just have a great time. Camp Laney helped our class come together.



Alex Kohls



Daniel Mace

Features

Baseball and Summer Fun!

by Jack Keller

The baseball trip was a thrilling one-week excursion throughout the Mid-South. We toured several cities and watched baseball games. You may think that all we did was baseball related, but not so! Several people that went on the trip did not know that much about the baseball, such as Warren Smith, Alex Luna, and Patrick Duffy, but that did not matter because the trip was for fun.

We went to only one game every day, leaving a bunch of free time in the hotel room. We also had down time while traveling to our next location. During the free time,

we played a lot of card games, such as slapjack, poker, and BS. The best part about the trip was probably being able to stay up pretty late even under the supervision of Mr. Thurmond, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Woolsey and pulling pranks against fellow members in the eighth grade.

enjoy baseball games to go on this trip.

Here are several favorite memories:

Jack Keller: Leaving Franklin Gaglione at Smoothie King for an hour while we went to go buy poker chips at a nearby book store.

Warren Smith: When Bill Shofner lost one contact and had to wear an eye patch.

Alex Luna: By far, Franklin getting lost at the Smoothie King.

Bill Shofner:...Six Flags!

Franklin Gaglione:...no reply!

Patrick Duffy: The best baseball games were the Redbirds game and then either the Barons game or the Mississippi game. The best part about the trip was when we were walking back to the car and we saw Frank across the street.

Drew Lonergan: When the debris from the car went flying through the windshield at Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Thurmond: Franklin getting lost at the Smoothie King or when the debris went flying through the windshield.



"Anybody seen Gaglione lately?"

Besides baseball games, the group went to the ESPN Zone, Six Flags, and many LaQuinta Inns. At the end of the trip, the group played a baseball game consisting of the rising eighth graders vs. the rising ninth graders. I advise anyone that wants to have fun for a week and

Welcome New Faculty



Stephen Shone



Daniel McGugin



Cherie Roberts



Jeff Trembley

Features

MathCounts: A New Year Begins

by Andrew Powell

The 2006-2007 MathCounts season is up and running. The sole goal of an aspiring MathCounts student is to be selected to the "competition team." MathCounts, of course, has a "Skills Squad," but only eight lucky students can be part of the team, meaning many of the, oh, say a trillion, students who try out for MathCounts have to, if they happen to be a seventh grader, wait and wish for better luck next year.

Unfortunately, some people are not aware of the workings of MathCounts. Competitions are on four levels: School Competition, Chapter Competition (MathCounts' title for city competition), State Competition, and National Competition. There are international math competitions, but for some reason, the U.S. has never had any real strength in those competitions, and thus they are not very big deals here. Each competition is comprised of two individual rounds (the Sprint Round and the Target Round) and a the Team Round; sometimes, depending on the level of competition, a playoff, or

Countdown Round follows the Team Round.

The first round (Sprint) is 40 minutes to do 30 problems. Simple right? The catch is that no calculators are allowed. This competition requires quick thinking, but mainly skill at guessing. It has been found that if one is unsure of the answer, he should use the number of the

answer in the Target Round. The total of the two is the individual score. The Team Round is two points for each correct answer, and that is added to the team average individual score to create the team score. The top team advances to the State Competition, and the top four individuals from the state go to the Nationals. In case you are interested, Virginia won the

National Competition last year, Washington came in second, and Indiana in third.

Last year, the team, comprised of Pat Killian, Andrew Powell, Stephen Bedard, and Chunsoo Park, dominated in the "Chapter" competition. The team then went to the state competition and took second place in a tough loss to Oak Ridge. The team has been striving toward

excellence this year, with two practices per week and six four-hour practices during the summer. As Carter Callaway puts it, "Yeah, we're dedicated." Dedication is taken to a new extreme although with the team giving up four hours on Saturday to go through old competitions, comparable to reviewing tape in any other sport. Mrs. "Coach" Qian is currently working with ten prospective students, but if anyone else interested, let her know. Also, the team needs support, so be sure to encourage any mathletes you see around school.



Potential MathCounts Competitors

problem. This method works about 75% of the time. The next round has eight problems given out in sets of two, allotting six minutes for each set of problems. These problems allow, and usually require, the use of a calculator.

Next, the Team round is a group effort by the entire team to answer ten tough problems in twenty minutes. Finally, the Countdown round is between the top eight individual finishers, and whoever gets the answer fastest wins. The scoring counts one point for each correct answer in the Sprint Round, and two points for each

Features

Advice for Seventh Graders

by Gage Baxter

Seventh graders beware! We know you do not want demerits, so here is the scoop on surviving the seventh grade. I decided to interview some eighth graders to ask them about the "good ole days" from their perspective.

Ryan Shepard: "Seventh graders should not misuse their study halls." (This advice is crucial.)

Jack Keller: "Get to class on time." (Mr. Russell loves to give demerits for being late!)

Alex Gant has a different opinion: "It isn't so much helping the seventh graders as much as helping the new eighth graders...I have been helping the new eighth graders because they did not really know how to prepare for MBA tests, quizzes, or even homework properly. I felt that they should have a little guidance, instead of being left all alone at a new school. (Now that is a great eighth grade role model!)"

Chris Goodrich's positive outlook on seventh grade: "Seventh grade does not seem like a big deal once you get to eighth grade. Don't

stress." (Don't worry too much; enjoy seventh grade.)

This next quote is very interesting. (Warning to seventh graders, DON'T DO THIS!) **Devin McClain:** "My advice for the seventh graders is to sleep in study halls to catch up for sleep from the night before." (AHHHHHHHH, big mistake. Mrs. Steele would definitely give ten demerits for sleeping.)



Gage the Sage

John Wyse: "Don't eat cookies in the building!!!" (Mr. Thurmond will get all up in your face for this offense.)

Jeffery Mech: "Keep your shirttail in." (I remember when I came back from lunch filled with great SAGE food, and Mrs. Christenson caught me red-handed with my shirttail out.)

Jarvis Werkhaven: "Do not throw stuff at other people because it could be dangerous and get you demerits. (I clearly remember when I was in math with Mr. Wims, and a visitor threw paper at Mr. Wims; it shocked

the whole class. How about I put it this way: It was a bad day for the guest.)

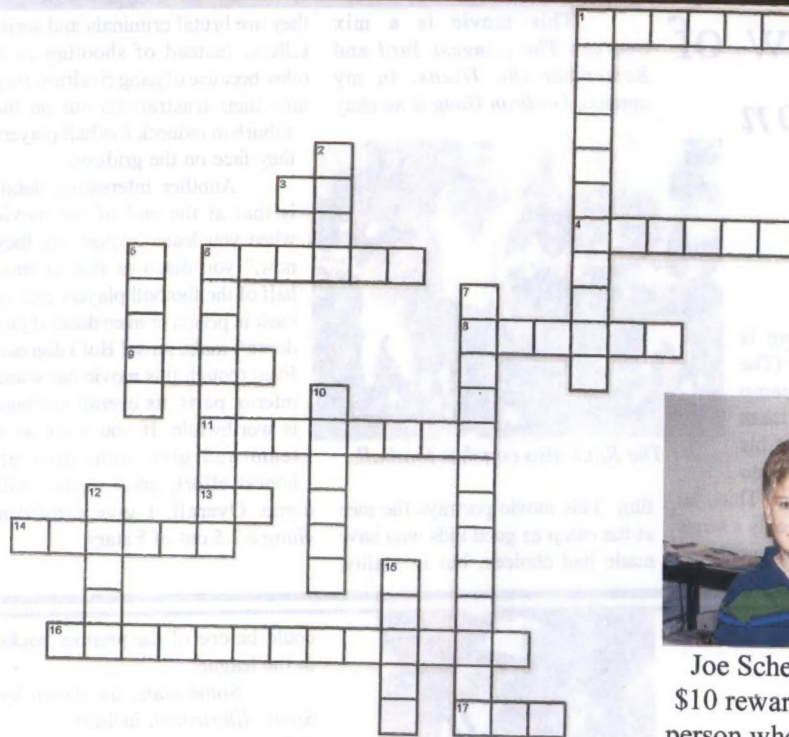
Jimmy Thomas says the obvious: "Do your homework." (Wow, that is all I can say.)

Ian Sharbel, a successful eighth grader, gives his 10 steps to surviving seventh grade:

1. Use your study halls wisely; they can come in handy when you want to finish your work.
2. Get involved with extra-curricular activities, like *Top of The Hill*, or other clubs.
3. Go in early for help sessions; they become a good source to know your teacher and get help on almost anything.
4. Do sports or 'murals, if you have the time.
5. Listen to your teacher's advice; if you don't, you could possibly get demerits.
6. Don't procrastinate; do all your projects ahead of time, not the night before they are due.
7. Stay focused on your work and get it done.
8. Get to know some new friends; you will be around them for another five years.
9. Study ahead of time for exams, tests and quizzes.
10. ENJOY MBA!

Gage's Note: If you come up with ideas for our writers, or even if you want to write, let the *Top of the Hill* Staff know.

Joe's Crossword



Joe Scherrer promises a \$10 reward to the first person who gives him a correct puzzle.

Across

1. Popular Japanese brain teaser
3. Abbreviation of versus
4. It's on the west corner of the science building
6. Most susceptible to pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis (ask ANYONE)
8. The stars in Pfeffer Rotunda are the same as they are on this man's birthday
9. Apple's new gain to fame
11. Famous bad guy
13. Prefix for "not" or "undid"
14. In the new movie, these finally conquer flight
16. Mr. Dog's breed (he's owned by an English teacher)
17. Popular Japanese fish

Down

1. Garden next to the library
2. MBA admissions test
5. His statue is in front of the library
6. Over 99 billion served
7. The wonderful company that makes our paper towel dispensers
10. It's all over campus: the MBA _____
12. Kendo Expert / Fire starter (yes, he is a teacher)
15. TOTH's great editor-in-chief

Entertainment

A Review of *Gridiron Gang*

by Jeffrey Mech

Gridiron Gang is the story of Sean Porter (The Rock), a detention camp probation officer, who takes dangerous teenagers at his prison and makes them into a winning football team. Thus, he teaches the players not only a sense of teamwork, his ultimate goal, but also a sense of responsibility.



The Rock also coaches football.

This movie is a mix between *The Longest Yard* and *Remember the Titans*. In my opinion, *Gridiron Gang* is an okay

they are brutal criminals and serial killers. Instead of shooting each other because of gang rivalries, they take their frustrations out on the suburban redneck football players they face on the gridiron.

Another interesting detail is that at the end of the movie when you learn "where are they now," you discover that at least half of the football players end up back in prison or even dead! It just doesn't make sense! But I digress. Even though this movie has some inferior parts, its overall message is worthwhile: If you work as a team and give something an honest effort, good results will come. Overall, I give *Gridiron Gang* a 2.5 out of 5 stars.

Fantasy Football

by Will McCaskill

The talk of this year in football is Fantasy Football. It seems that most football fans are signed up for at least one fantasy football team, sometimes more. Some of the MBA junior schoolers report that the top pick for their team is Peyton Manning, Ladaian Tomlinson, or Larry Johnson. The most surprising of these top picks is Ladanian Tomlinson, who had a Pro Bowl appearance last year but wasn't expected to be anyone's top pick. All the focus leading up to this



Peyton Manning

season was Larry Johnson. Going into last season, he was a back-up; however, when he got the opportunity to play when Priest Holmes got injured, Johnson proved his ability. He exploded for over 1,000 yards and showed that he

could be one of the premier backs in the league.

Some stats, as shown by *Sports Illustrated*, include:

QBs

1. Tom Brady – NE
2. Peyton Manning – IND
3. Carson Palmer – CIN
4. Eli Manning – NYG
5. Matt Hasselback – SEA
6. Kurt Warner – ARI
7. Drew Bledsoe – DAL
8. Mark Brunell – WSH
9. Drew Brees – NO
10. Daunte Culpepper – NIA

RBs

1. Larry Johnson – KC
2. Ladanian Tomlinson – SD
3. Shaun Alexander – SEA
4. Clinton Portis – WSH
5. Edgerrin James – ARI

Entertainment

6. Tiki Barber – NYG
7. Ronnie Brown – MIA
8. Rudi Johnson – CIN
9. Cadillac Williams – TB
10. Steven Jackson – STL

WRs

1. Chad Johnson – CIN
2. Larry Fitzgerald – ARI
3. Terrell Owens – DAL
4. Steve Smith – CAR
5. Chris Chambers – MIA
6. Marvin Harrison – IND
7. Anquan Boldin – ARI
8. Torry Holt – STL
9. Hines Ward – PIT
10. Andre Johnson – HOU

TEs

1. Antonio Gates – SD
2. Tony Gonzalez – KC
3. Todd Heap – BAL
4. Jeremy Shockey – YG
5. Chris Cooley – WSH
6. Dallas Clark – IND
7. L. J. Smith – PHI
8. Jason Witten – DAL
9. Alge Crumpler – ATL
10. Heath Miller – PIT

Kickers

1. Adam Vinatieri – IND
2. Neil Rackers – ARI
3. John Casay – CAR
4. Shayne Graham – CIN
5. Jeff Reed – PIT
6. Jay Feely – NYG
7. Josh Brown – SEA
8. Lawrence Tynes – KC
9. David Akers – PHI
10. Mike Vanderjagt – DAL

Defenses

1. CHI Bears

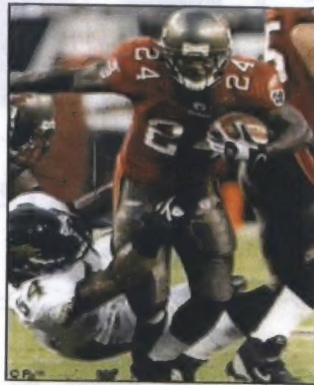
2. PIT Steelers
3. CAR Panthers
4. IND Colts
5. SEA Seahawks
6. JAX Jaguars
7. BAL Ravens
8. WSH Redskins
9. DEN Broncos
10. SD Chargers

So far this season, a lot of these players have not lived up to their expectations. Kurt Warner has struggled and is now #2 to Matt Leinart. Daunte Culpepper has also struggled, and he is #2 to Joey Harrington. Drew Brees has played his heart out, leading his new team, the New Orleans Saints, to a 5-1 start. For running backs, Steven Jackson has been impressive, along with Ladainian Tomlinson and Tiki Barber. However, Cadillac Williams, Ronnie Brown, and Edgerrin James have struggled while their O-lines still try to come together. For wide receivers and tight ends, Torry Holt



Shaun Alexander

stands out as well as Steve Smith, who was hurt the first two games of the season. TO has not impressed early but is showing signs of improvement after a three-touchdown game against the Texans. Todd Heap, Jason Witten, and Jeremy Shockey are playing better than the other tight ends. Heath Miller hasn't caught many balls because Ben Roethlisberger has struggled, and Antonio Gates has a QB who doesn't throw much because he has the help of LT. The Bears' D has been outstanding, so far holding their opponents to 36 points and helping their team to a 5-0 start. The Chargers have been impressive, although they haven't played anyone that challenging. The Men of Steel and the Panthers have not had very good play. Finally, good luck with your Fantasy Football team!



Cadillac Williams

Snakey Stuff

Snakes on a Plane:

A Movie Review

by Jimmy Thomas

Samuel L. Jackson once said, "Snakes on a Plane just might be the best motion picture ever made," and I can't say I disagree. *Snakes on a Plane* is the one movie everyone has been waiting for, featuring all the snakes, blood, humor, and Samuel L. Jackson anyone could ever want. Because of the anticipation, some say summer didn't really begin until August 18, the release date of SOAP. As some of you might have guessed, the plot consists of some passengers who struggle to survive with snakes on a plane that are let loose by an assassin during a flight over the Pacific Ocean.

Sean Jones, played by Nathan Phillips, is flying to Los Angeles because he has witnessed a murder; the almighty

Samuel L. Jackson, who plays an FBI agent named Neville Flynn, is escorting him to testify in court. The villain's goal is to kill Sean because he is a witness against him. Basically, Samuel L. Jackson kills a bunch of snakes and tells everyone what to do on their seemingly never-ending flight.

couple, the preppy girl with the little dog, the young boys flying alone for the first time, the famous rapper, the incredibly fat woman, the cranky British businessman, and, of course, the phenomenal Kenan Thompson, idolized for his role in *Good Burger*, who plays a bodyguard for the rapper. This very diverse group of

people makes for a funny and deadly flight. (No, Kenan doesn't die).

This movie has some really awesome snakes and is pretty suspenseful although the tragedies are funny because the plot is so unrealistic. The real fun begins when both pilots die and huge Burmese pythons fall from the lighting panels. Other highlights include the scenes when the arrogant British man is swallowed whole by a snake and when Jackson shoots the window, causing the plane to slightly break apart and tons of snakes to go flying out. Jack Keller says, "Snakes on a Plane changed my life." I recommend that every one of you go see this movie right

now! And the best part: the end hints there will be a sequel!



Other intriguing passengers on the plane include the claustrophobic man, the honeymoon

Big Red Carnival



Caroline Malloy and Rob McArthur



Can Bill send Will (hidden from camera) into the tank?



Chris "Kong" Goodrich



Daniel and Wilson, en garde!



Eddie Seay wins the grand prize: pick-up stix.



Hunter and Devin get pumped for the CPA game.



Will and Chris: Super-School Spirit

8th Grade Mixer

Dancing the Night Away

by Gage Baxter

Date: Saturday, October 7

Place: MBA Small Gym

Event: MBA-Harpeth Hall mixer

Even Napoleon Dynamite would have been impressed with the moves on the dance floor by Daniel Rundberg. Yes, he was the highlight of the eighth grade mixer. He was doing every move you could think of, especially jumping and just having fun. He also competed in a dance-off and entertained us all. Whenever he started dancing, a crowd of people swarmed around him. It was amazing! Cedric Smith, Devin McClain, Matthew Johnson, and Cooper Thomas also showed their dancing skills during the contest, but alas, the HH girls were declared the dancing champions by the disc jockeys. If you missed the mixer, you missed a priceless night.



Franklin and M.E.



Daniel, the Microbe Jumping Man!



Alli and Cedric



Andrew and Carter impress Kendal with their slick moves.

7th Grade Mixer

MBA - HH Extravaganza

by Gabe Sharlin

The ninth of September was hot. Kids pulled up to the Harpeth Hall soccer field at around 4:00 PM. Full of excitement and expectation, seventh grade girls and boys swarmed the only sidewalk leading to the field. Pop music was playing in the background. I was already pumped to be part of the fiesta.

I got out of my car and made my way through the ocean of sweaty kids. At last, I was on the field. Almost immediately, I saw a friend of mind, John Mark Bellet, throwing the football with Mr. Trembley. Briefly, I joined in. After a few minutes passed, Mr. Trembley asked if anybody wanted to play a game of 500 Jackpot. Soon a group of about twenty kids, including me, played what turned out to be an extreme game of 500 Jackpot. At one point, we were playing with three balls! A group of boys decided to start a game of ultimate Frisbee, which I also played. Some girls wanted to join in on the action. At last, I was

starting to feel less anxiety about being around new girls.

Food was ready for those of us who were hungry at about 5 PM. The cooks prepared hot dogs, chips, lemonade, and water. I thought the food was pretty good.

When I returned to the field, I joined in on a game of football. Soon, I heard yelling in the distance. I looked over my shoulder, and I saw some girls getting stung by yellow jackets. I asked Mrs. Roberts what got the yellow jackets started. She replied that a group of girls went up on the hill where the nest was located, and one girl stepped on it. I also asked Mrs.

Jamie was stung three times on the lip.

Towards the end of the mixer, I threw Frisbee with Logan Standard and two other boys. Everyone started filing out of the stadium around 6 PM and crowded the sidewalk as they waited for their rides. I found it hard to find a gap in the crowd where I could stand. One by one, parents picked up their kids. I thought I would die of boredom waiting for my ride. About twenty minutes later when my ride finally arrived, I finally said goodbye to my friends.

Later at school, I interviewed a fellow seventh-grader, Eric Owings, about the mixer. Eric responded: "I was nervously anticipating meeting the new girls." I also asked Owings if he felt the same way about the mixer at the end as he did when he first arrived earlier that day. He replied: "I did not feel as nervous about being around the girls." I asked him his thoughts about Harpeth Hall's campus. Eric said: "It was nice, but not as nice as MBA's campus." I concluded the interview by asking what the highlight of his afternoon was. Owings replied confidently: "Meeting new girls."

I thought that the mixer was a success. I had a lot fun, and I look forward to future collaborations with Harpeth Hall.



Yellow Jackets: Uninvited Guests

Roberts who were some of the major victims. The first name she mentioned was Connor Yakushi, who was stung thirteen times. Also, George Preston was stung ten times, once beside his eye. A fellow seventh-grader mentioned that Jamie Bradshaw was another major victim. According to my source,

Spirit Week



Lucas thinks he could get better results for the Titans than Kerry Collins.



Coach Carter is Cooper's hero.



*Cooper "Carter,"
Mitchell "Sparrow,"
and "Batman"
Fisher*



The Jimmy in the Yellow Hat



*Martin before Mr.
Thurmond told
him to get a
haircut.*



On fire for the Titans!

Homecoming



Jack the Red-Faced



TOH Photographer Andrew Wright now has his own camera!



John Mark McJagger



Casey is as tall as John Baker.



"I wish I could win a puppy."



Eric Walsh: King for a Day

Sports

Lessons on the Gridiron: Eighth Grade Football

by Miller Higgins

The season started with young men who were accustomed to the usual summer workouts, the issuing of pads and playbooks, and coaches taking times on our agility skills. Then we started full-padded practice in sweltering summer heat with numerous rainy practices. During these weeks before school started, we became a team. Whether the practice involved drills, fundamentals, or sprints, we did everything together. We finally had our first game a week before school started. We trampled the Woodland Warriors 35-0. The contest was a great assessment of how good we handled a game situation. The next game against the Springfield Yellow jackets was a hard fought contest, but we fell short, losing 3-14. We had a lot of improving to do if we were going to become a successful team. In the next game against

Withorne, we were outplayed, and the score showed it all: 7-33. The next gridiron battle was against McCallie; we played tough and won 19-14. The team had some big defensive stops down the stretch to hold onto the victory. The next

Brentwood Academy Eagles. We put up a good fight early and had a few "questionable" calls that never went our way. Give credit to the other team though as they clearly outplayed us and won 6-32. Our last game, the Big Red Bowl, was

against Lipscomb. We were in control throughout the whole game as we sealed the deal 33-25. Our season had its ups and downs, but we became a team.



Coach Golenor encourages the offense.

encounter on the turf was against Battle Ground Academy, and it was apparent through the first half that the Wildcats were outmatched; the Big Red rolled to a 33-0 victory. Everyone played in this game, which was exciting for people who work hard at practice and do not get enough credit.

Then we traveled to Carlton Flatt field to face the heralded

team voted on the following awards: Joe Riegle, Best Leader; Chase Owens, Best Attitude; John Sehrt, Best Tackler; John Hughart, Unsung Hero; Doug McWilliams, Best Blocker; and Connor Pagnani, Hardest Worker.

Thanks to Coaches Golenor, McMurray, McMahan, and Ardisson for their support and guidance throughout the season.



Aubrey Witherington leads the offense against Brentwood Academy.

Sports

We Beat BA!

Seventh Grade Football

by Aaron Ardisson

This year's seventh grade football team had a season record of 5 wins and 5 losses, if you count the Ensworth scrimmage, where we completely dominated the Tigers. The team had a rough start but pulled it together in the second half of the season. With the season at an end, there are things that we, the players, will miss. We'll miss Coach Pride's amazing punting and passing skills with a seventh-grade size football, and Coach Jenkins calling all of the linemen "Beefalo." However, now that football is over,



Great catch, Ford!

some of the things we will not have to worry about are incoming footballs thrown by Coach Pride

to the sideliners who are not paying attention, having to take a "Big One" because of our helmets being off during practice, and Coach Cooper's looking cool with a clipboard on the sidelines during the game. Speaking of sideliners, 85% of the team will no longer have to stand on the sidelines just to cheer on and watch our peers (not that there is anything wrong with that).

The seventh graders didn't think up as many nicknames as

I thought we would this season. Of the very few nicknames given, the one that stands out most is Dobbs "Beef". Richards. With a play designed especially for him, "Beef Right" proved to be too much for Brentwood Academy. Highlights from the season include Chris Norman's three interceptions in the Big Red Bowl, always being able to count on Alex Kohls for a touchdown, James Kay's crazy linebacker skills, and Ryland Close's speed. Sideline highlights include Hayden Holliman's QB sack at the BGA game and Joe Barry's season total of 11 rushing yards.



James Kay leads the way for Bryan Oslin.

Sports

Microbe XC Got Skills! HVAC Champions

by John Baker

This year's Microbe Cross Country team had a phenomenal season. Through excellent effort and first-rate coaching, the team improved at every meet and practice. We started out the season with practices in the hot days of late August, putting in hours of sweat and effort. The team also participated in a Nashville Striders' meet held at the Vaughn's Gap course. We had our first official meet at the USN River



"We are the Champions!"

Campus and won it by a convincing margin. Our second meet was against BA, BGA, BMS, and host Woodland Middle at Crocket Park. Again, we dominated the competition, defeating the second place team by more than

70 points. The team then traveled to Ensworth High School. Yet again, we owned everyone. The next week, the Microbes went home from Vaughn's Gap with another victory (caught the pattern yet?) with almost everyone having a new PR, or best time. Then ...wait for it...we won again against Harding Academy, Ensworth, BGA, FRA, and CPA. Finally, on the night of the Spaghetti Supper, we went out to Vaughn's Gap again, this time to defend our title as HVAC champions. We successfully dispatched Ensworth, Harding Academy, BMS, BA, CPA, and our nemesis, Grassland, who got second place overall. In the top 50, we had Evan Newport (19th, 9:02), Harrison Luna (17th, 9:01), Max Coyle (15th, 8:50), Ben Crook (8th, 8:42), Hayes McCord (6th, 8:35), Ryan Hill (5th, 8:34), and John Baker (1st, 8:15). Almost everyone ran a PR at the meet and put forth an excellent effort. Thanks to the eighth graders who showed leadership this year, and good luck to the seventh graders for next year.

To our coaches, Mr. Russell, Mr. Ferrell, Dr. Bailey, and Mrs. Mosley: Thank you so much for the time and energy you put into the team. We greatly appreciate your expertise and all that you have done for us to make us better runners and a better team.

To all of our supporters: Thank you for supporting us and cheering us on at the meets.



Coach Russell



Individual Medalist John Baker

Sports

Down to the Wire: Microbe Golf

by Coach Gabe Carro and
Cody Fisher

After completing the regular season with a somewhat disappointing 3-4 record, the MBA



Drew Lonergan

microbe golf team had an outstanding showing at the HVAC Golf Tournament. The event, held on the Links at Spencer Creek, was a nail-biter. Eleven schools sent five players to compete. After all 55 scores were posted, MBA, Christ Presbyterian Academy, Woodland Middle School, and Grassland Middle School all tied for the lowest team total. Thus a four-way,

sudden-death team play-off was set. Grassland Middle amassed the lowest combined team score, followed closely by CPA, which took second place.

In the individual race, MBA's Cody Fisher and BGA's Luke Maurer tied at even par 33 in regulation play for the lowest score, thus

setting up another sudden-death play-off for medalist and runner-up. After trading par 4s and 3s on the first two holes and bogeys on the third, Cody sank a 25-foot birdie putt on the fourth play-off hole to edge Maurer by one stroke and take the medal.

Congratulations also to Philip Spelman, who shot a three over par 36, and Nick Kohler, who shot a seven over par 40. Finally, the entire team, composed of J a c k Hallemann, D r e w



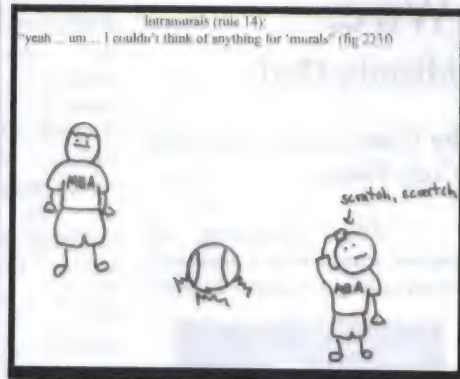
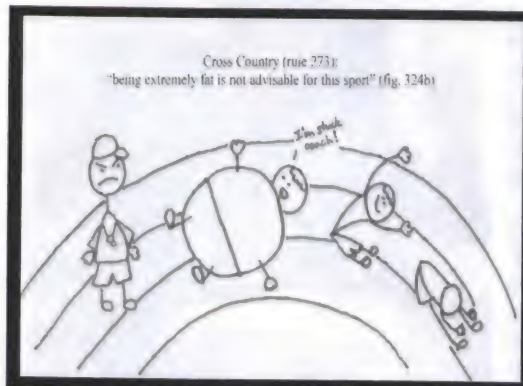
Cody Fisher: 1st Place Medalist

Lonergan, Matthew Johnson, Nick Kohler, Philip Spelman, Cody Fisher, Will Peffen, Austin Doebler, and Baker Swain, helped make this microbe golf season a memorable one. Well done, gentlemen!

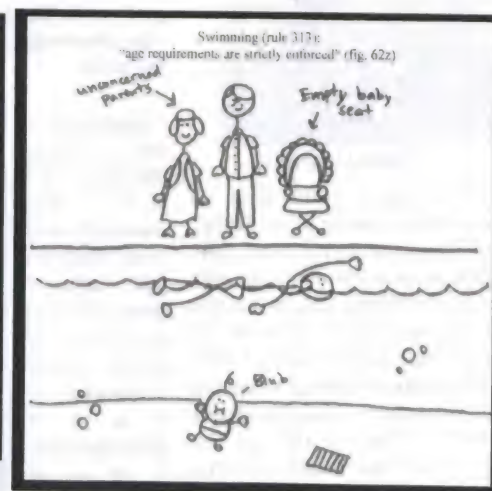
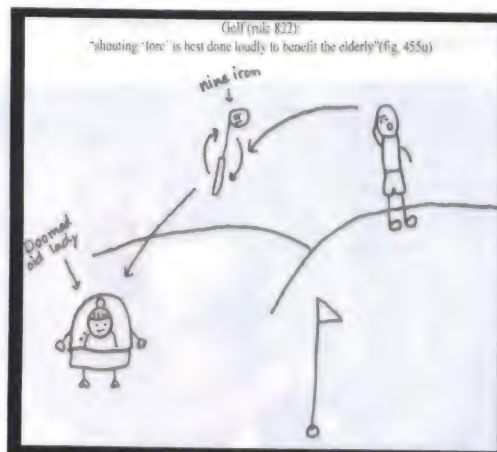


Sports Toons

Rules for Fall Sports

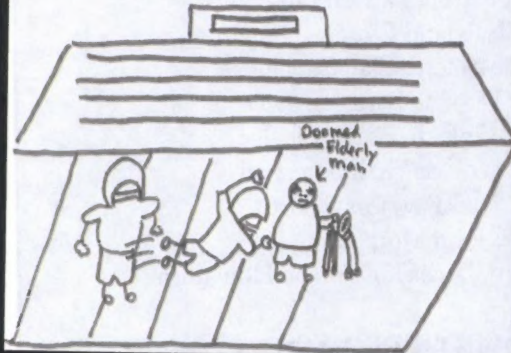


Chris Goodrich



Sports Toons

Football (rule 2,384):
"participation is best left to the MBA students" (fig. 34a)



Rifery (rule 4):
"keep firearms under close watch so as to keep children safe" (fig. 2,275h)



Microbes
cheer for the
Big Red
vs.
McCallie



Congrats!

7th Grade Representatives

Mrs. Roberts: Wilson Patton, Warren Lipscomb

Mr. Russell: Ryland Close

Mr. Wims: Charlie Steere, Clay Cauble

Mrs. Steele: Rhett Hooper, Barton Davies

Mr. McGugin: Blair Griffith, Harris Elledge

Dr. Marro: Jamie Joyce, Marshall Sorenson

Mr. Ferrell: Jamie Bradshaw, Gray Curtis

Mr. Cooper: John Morphis

Mr. Brown: Aaron Ardisson, James Kay, Augie Houghton

8th Grade Representatives

Mrs. Christeson: Marc Giguere, Connor Pagnani, Tyler Cauble

Mrs. Pettus: Cody Fisher, Cooper Thomas, John Sehrt

Mr. Woolsey: Benjamin Coode, Chase Pruett

Mr. Anderson: Justin Park, John Wyse

Mr. McMurray: Christian Alford, Warren Smith, Jack Hallemann

Miss Ellery: Chris Goodrich, Connor Caldwell, Van East

Mr. Russ: Andrew Powell

Mr. Spiegel: Tom Markham, Davis Thraillkill, Chase Lovelace

Future Microbes. . .

Hawkins Russell with his adoring family



Jack Bakken



New Eighth Graders



Phillip Danieleley



Brian Roberson



Jack Warne



Wilson Parker



William Flautt



Connor Pagnani



Nathan Tinnell



Marc Giguere



The Back Page



Microbes Mingling at McCallie

Editor-in-Chief.....Walton Macey
Production Manager.....Clay McDonald
Features Editor.....Gage Baxter
Sports Editor.....Jack Keller
Entertainment Editor.....Jeffrey Mech
Copy Editor.....Lucas Rappuhn
Photographer.....Andrew Wright
Sponsors.....Mrs. Pettus, Mrs. Roberts